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Item 2 of the provisional agenda

FOR ACTION

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

For the 1997 annual session of the Executive Board
to be held at United Nations Headquarters
from 2 to 6 June 1997

SUMMARY

The present document contains the annotated provisional agenda for the 1997 annual session of the Executive Board. The annex provides the proposed timetable and organization of work for the session.

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PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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(a) GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1997

(b) GCO financial report and statements for the year ended 30 April 1996

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ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session: statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

Introductory statements will be made by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
[FOR ACTION]

The provisional agenda has been structured in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions, in particular the 1997 programme of work adopted by the Board at its third regular session in September 1996 (E/ICEF/1996/12/Rev.1, decision 1996/36). The timetable and organization of work are contained in the annex.

The Bureau was consulted on the provisional agenda and timetable (CF/EB/1997/019).

Draft decisions will be adopted as the discussion of each agenda item is concluded. However, if required, time will be set aside for Board members to consult informally on all outstanding draft decisions.

3. Report of the Executive Director (Part II)
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1997/10 (Part II)]

The "Report of the Executive Director" is prepared in the context of decision 1995/5 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1), adopted at the first regular session of 1995, and the 1997 programme of work. Due to the timing of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, part I of the report, "Annual report to the Economic and Social Council", was submitted to the Board at its second regular session in March 1997.

In providing an overview of developments in 1996 in all areas of UNICEF work, subjects have been consolidated and the report has been streamlined.

4. Follow-up to the World Summit for Children
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1997/14]

This is the first report on the goals of the World Summit for Children since the Secretary-General's mid-decade review report to the fifty-first General Assembly and the Executive Director's preliminary report to the Executive Board at its 1996 annual session (E/ICEF/1996/15), both of which indicated significant achievements in reaching the mid-decade goals.

The report illustrates how UNICEF intends to use the Convention on the Rights of the Child as a framework to support implementation of the World Summit goals. It provides information on the cost of supporting the mid-decade review to UNICEF and its country programmes as requested in decision 1995/14. It also outlines the remaining challenges to achieve the year 2000 goals and the role of UNICEF in support of the efforts of national Governments.

The Executive Board may wish to consider and adopt the draft recommendation contained in the report.

5. Implementation of UNICEF policies and strategies on children in need of special protection measures

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1997/16]

At its 1996 annual session, the Executive Board endorsed the perspective, policies and strategies presented in the review of UNICEF policies and strategies on children in need of special protection measures (decision 1996/27). The Executive Board also requested the Executive Director to report back at the present session on the steps taken within the framework of paragraph 2 of that decision and to present to the Board a plan and a time-frame for further implementation of the relevant policies and strategies. This report responds to that request.

The Executive Board may wish to consider and adopt the draft recommendation contained in the report.

6. Ensuring children's rights to survival, development and protection in Africa

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1997/15]

As requested by the Executive Board, this report reviews progress made in the implementation of decision 1995/18, adopted at its 1995 annual session, on ensuring child survival, protection and development in Africa.

7. Oral report on the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for Africa

In view of the particular importance of the Special Initiative for Africa, the Executive Board decided at its third regular session in September 1996 to include this item on the agenda of the present session (decision 1996/36).

8. Report on the allocation of general resources

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1997/P/L.17]

At its third regular session in September 1996, the Executive Board reviewed a discussion paper on and proposals for the allocation of general resources (E/ICEF/1996/CRP.30). In accordance with decision 1996/34, the secretariat will present a revised proposal, taking into account the guidelines contained in the decision and in close consultation with the Board, for Board consideration and approval. Two inter-sessional meetings on the subject were held - in February and March - and comments made at the meetings have been taken into account in preparing this report.

9. Outline of UNICEF information and publication policy

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1997/17]

Within the context of the integrated budget for UNICEF headquarters and regional offices for the biennium 1996-1997 (E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.5), which was reviewed and approved by the Executive Board at its second regular session in

April 1996, and paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the budget (E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.7), the Executive Board adopted decision 1996/15 on the UNICEF communication and information programme.

In that decision, the Executive Director was encouraged to present "an information and publication policy, in the context of the mandate of UNICEF and the results of the Communications Project Team of the Management Excellence Programme, and in consultation with interested delegations, so that account will be taken of the need to prioritize its publications, with special attention to the risk of duplication with other publications of the United Nations and the financial and human constraints of the Fund".

Following an inter-sessional meeting on 4 March and further discussions with the Bureau of the Executive Board, it was agreed that an outline of a paper on the UNICEF policy concerning information and publication would be submitted at the present session for discussion and guidance by the Executive Board on the substance of and process towards an information and publication policy.

10. Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO)

(a) GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1997
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1997/AB/L.8]

At its 1996 annual session, the Executive Board approved the change of the GCO fiscal year from 1 May-30 April to 1 January-31 December (decision 1996/22 C.5). In order to regularize the cycle, the GCO work plan and proposed budget will cover the period 1 May-31 December 1997. The Board may wish to consider and approve the draft recommendations contained in the report.

(b) GCO financial report and statements for the year ended 30 April 1996
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1997/AB/L.9]

The Board will have before it for review the financial report for the 1995 season, 1 May 1995-30 April 1996.

11. Reports on the meetings of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education and the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy (to be reconstituted as the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health)
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1997/18 AND E/ICEF/1997/19]

Under this agenda item, the Executive Board will have the following for review: (a) the report of the special session of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education, held in Bucharest, Romania, on 5 and 6 May 1997; and (b) the report of the final meeting of the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy, to be reconstituted as the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health, held at WHO Headquarters in Geneva on 19 and 20 May 1997.

Decision 1997/8 (E/ICEF/1997/12 (Part I), adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session in January 1997, requests that, as an item on the agenda of its first meeting, members of the Coordinating Committee should review the role and mandate of the Committee and present proposals for revised terms of

reference and operating methods. This is to be included in the report on the meeting and submitted for approval to the Executive Boards of the three organizations.

As requested by the Executive Board at its first regular session of 1995 (decision 1995/4), the President of the Board will present the reports of the two committees to the Board, outlining the issues raised, the recommendations made and their context, and the future implications of the recommendations (E/ICEF/1997/CRP.17 and E/ICEF/1997/CRP.18). The Executive Board may wish to take note of the reports of the two committees and any recommendations contained therein.

12. Implementation of management excellence in UNICEF
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1997/CRP.15]

At its third regular session in September 1996, the Executive Board requested the secretariat to present, inter alia, to its second regular session and annual session in 1997 an oral report, accompanied by a conference room paper (CRP) (decision 1996/32).

Taking into account comments made by delegations on the preliminary information contained in the CRP submitted to the Board at its second regular session in March (E/ICEF/1997/CRP.9), this CRP presents a more comprehensive response to the decision 1996/32.

13. Field visit of Executive Board members
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1997/CRP.16]

A team of Executive Board members, selected by their respective regional groups, visited Malawi and Zambia in Africa to observe UNICEF programme activities in the field. The team leader will present the report of the field visit.

14. Other matters

The Board may consider discussing any other issues that it finds timely and appropriate under this agenda item.

15. Closing of the session: remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

The Executive Director and the President will make concluding remarks, followed by the closure of the session.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE 1997 ANNUAL SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 2-6 JUNE*

MONDAY, 2 JUNE	a.m./ p.m.	Item 1	Opening of the session: statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director
		Item 2	Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
		Item 3	Report of the Executive Director (Part II)
		Item 4	Follow-up to the World Summit for Children
TUESDAY, 3 JUNE	a.m.	Item 5	Implementation of UNICEF policies and strategies on children in need of special protection measures
	p.m.	Item 6	Ensuring children's rights to survival, development and protection in Africa
		Item 7	Oral report on the United Nations System-wide Special Initiative for Africa
WEDNESDAY, 4 JUNE	a.m.	Item 8	Report on the allocation of general resources
	p.m.	Item 9	Outline of UNICEF information and publication policy
THURSDAY, 5 JUNE	a.m.	Item 10	Greeting Card and related Operations (GCO): (a) GCO work plan and proposed budget for 1997 (b) GCO financial report and statements for the year ended 30 April 1996
		Item 11	Reports on the meetings of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education and the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy (to be reconstituted as the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health)
	p.m.	Item 11 (cont'd)	Reports on the meetings of the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education and the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy (to be reconstituted as the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health) (continued)
		Item 12	Implementation of management excellence in UNICEF
FRIDAY, 6 JUNE	a.m.	Item 12 (cont'd)	Implementation of management excellence in UNICEF (continued)
		Item 13	Field visit of Executive Board members
	p.m.	Item 14	Other matters
		Item 15	Closing of the session: remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

* When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item on the agenda will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.